

# RACIAL INEQUALITY AND THE NFL

By Kevin White

Last year, San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick knelt during the national anthem in order to bring attention to the Black Lives Matter movement. The story became national news, and fierce debate ensued. Now, a year later, Colin Kaepernick is a free agent and remains unsigned.

Let's start by establishing an important and hopefully obvious fact: Kaepernick does not have a job because of his protests. It is not an issue of talent. Colin Kaepernick is easily one of the 40 best quarterbacks in America (40 assumes 24 of the 32 teams are using their backup spot to groom a successor, and don't want a veteran QB as the backup; this is a generous estimate). I'd even argue that Colin Kaepernick is better than a few starting quarterbacks, such as Josh McCown of the Jets, Jacoby Brissett of the Colts and Blake Bortles of the Jaguars. Despite this, Kaepernick remains unsigned.

I don't believe that the league is illegally colluding to prevent a team from signing Kaepernick. At least, I find it easier to believe that 32 sets of owners, presidents, and general managers decided Kaepernick was not worth the "hassle." I wouldn't be surprised to learn that there was collusion; it seems like an unnecessary, morally bankrupt policy that Roger Goodell's NFL would pursue. If there's no collusion, then what is happening to Kaepernick is totally legal. He has the right to protest, and teams have the right not to hire him because of it. Even if the blackballing of Kaepernick is legal, that doesn't make it right. Kaepernick's lack of a job highlights a strain of ignorance surrounding the experience of people of color in this country that runs through the franchises of the NFL, all but one of which (Jacksonville Jaguars) have white owners.

One of the arguments leveled against Kaepernick is that he is too much drama for a backup quarterback. As I said before, he could be a starter on a few teams. Furthermore, the issue is not drama or excessive media coverage. If that were the case, Tim Tebow wouldn't have been signed multiple times. The issue also is not that he could be a locker room cancer. Richie Incognito was so cruel to his teammate Jonathan Martin that Martin left football for a season. This teammate was a starter in the NFL, a position that takes a lifetime of work to achieve. How terribly must you be treated for you to give up on a sport that has been your life's obsession since elementary school? I'd assume pretty terribly, yet Incognito got another shot. The issue is that Kaepernick is a divisive public figure, and represents a threat to the profits of the team.

I would like to place the blame for Kaepernick's unemployment at the feet of the owners — it would be an easy solution. But I don't think that the owners' personal disagreement is what keeps Kaepernick off the field so much as their knowledge that so many other people disagree. They fear that fans would stop supporting their team if Kaepernick were on the roster. And that's where the issue is: the owners are only concerned about what the fans think. The owners are a rational group of people, and they worry most about their wallets. In a vacuum, not signing Kaepernick is an understandable occurrence that the owners make when they see that people hate Kaepernick for how and why he protests. It is ignorant, but this is a piece of America that exists, even if we do not want it to. However, this doesn't occur in a vacuum.

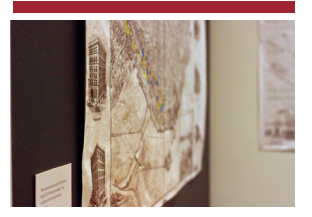
*(Continued on page 8...)*



NEWS, PAGE 2  
Race for Tacoma Mayor heats up



FEATURES, PAGE 7  
Beloved staff member finds new path.



ARTS & EVENTS, PAGE 12  
Exhibit at TAM explores history of Chinese expulsion in Tacoma

# UNIVERSITY RESPONDS TO TITLE IX ANNOUNCEMENT

By Marcelle Rutherford

On Friday, Sept. 22, the Department of Education announced that revisions had been made to the procedures for investigating sexual assault on college campuses. President Crawford sent out an email that day announcing the changes to the campus community.

"Earlier today the U.S. Department of Education released revised guidelines relating to the procedures by which educational institutions investigate, adjudicate, and resolve allegations of sexual misconduct. We will continue to follow our existing policies and procedures ... while we study the new guidelines and seek advice from the Office for Civil Rights and legal counsel," the email read.

The University has been in the process of updating the campus policy prohibiting sexual misconduct for the past two years. A few days before the announcement, the President sent out the new policy to the campus community. As of now, the University policy remains unchanged.

"The University is committed to our students. We will continue to follow our existing policies and procedures while we study the new guidance, seek advice from the Office for Civil Rights, and work with counsel," Tiffany Davis, the Deputy Title IX coordinator, said.

The Department of Education released a "Dear Colleague" letter and a Q&A. These documents rescinded two earlier "Dear Colleague" letters from the Obama-Biden administration, one written in 2011 and the other in 2014. The basic purpose of the "Dear Colleague" letters and Q&As is to provide guidelines as to how school officials understand Title IX and all of its moving parts.

This particular "Dear Colleague" letter removes the 60-day limit imposed on sexual assault investigations. The idea of this is to give colleges and universities more time to deal with the situation on their own before reporting to the federal government or law enforcement. The other side of this is that it removes the need to gather evidence quickly and submit a report, which could mean less of a chance of justice for the accused.

"This is an updated guide to how to interpret the Title IX law in terms of investigating sexual assault," Marta Cady, Associate Dean of Students and Director of New Student Orientation, said.

Cady handles much of the sexual assault prevention programming on campus, including the Green Dot Program. She has been keeping a very close eye on news coming out of the Department of Education regarding

changes to sexual assault protections and how they might affect the University.

"Since it just came out Friday, our Title IX officer Michael Benitez and our deputy Title IX officer Tiffany Davis have not thoroughly vetted what it means for us. And yet when I talked to the director of student conduct, the guidelines that they released in terms of our policies and procedures, I don't think they'll have a huge effect," Cady said.

As of now, the administration on campus is sticking to their policies and procedures for investigating sexual assault. The updates from the Dept. of Education are concerned with providing equal treatment to both the victim and the accused, and those involved in working with this issue at the University feel that the updated policies already reflect this.

"We just went through a whole draft and finalization of the policies and then we also did the procedures, too. Our policies and procedures are based on the last "Dear Colleague" letter in the Obama-Biden administration and our policies and procedures really reflect that. There are a few things in the new letter and Q&A that Tiffany Davis talked about, but I don't think there's going to be a huge affect on what we already do because we already try to be very fair to respondents and complainants both," Cady said.

"There was a committee that worked on that [the updated University policy] for the past two years prior to President Crawford. There was a desire to be very clear with the policies and procedures and I think we achieved that," Cady continued.

Major news outlets have been reporting that Betsy DeVos, the new Secretary of Education, has highlighted sexual assault investigation as something that needed changing. According to The New York Times, DeVos began discussing Title IX and sexual assault with various organizations in early July. She met with advocacy groups as well as groups who support the rights of the accused.

Those working with victims of sexual assault on campus are fearful of what the Dept. of Education might do to make college campuses less safe for everyone. Head of Peer Allies Emily Katz said, "Although I don't foresee our school being forced to change anything about our new policies and procedures, I am worried about people's perception of these national changes."

There is both relief and continued anticipation after the release of the new "Dear Colleague" letter. Although this first move does not affect Puget Sound

in any major way, there is a sense that there might be more changes on the way.

It is inconsistent with past actions of the government to rescind earlier protections put in place by the previous administration, as this has a sense of "rolling back" protections for students affected by these issues.

"I'm sad that they rescinded the 2011 and 2014 pieces from under Obama-Biden. I don't know why it was necessary to rescind those pieces. They could have just said here is some more further explanation or here is our thought process on this because that is kind of more typical, but they didn't need to rescind the other two. I think they could have kept the other two and said 'here's an update to that,'" Cady said.

"When you read through the Q&A that they provided, they could have done horrible things and they didn't. I guess it's kind of in line with less government influence and more say for colleges and universities. Like you should all have good policies and procedures and our letter and Q&A is saying you should do the right thing and have good and clear policies. It doesn't have to be as directed by the government," Cady continued.

More say for colleges and universities in how they handle sexual assault means something different for each school. In 2014, a student at Columbia University filed a complaint with the administration about the mishandling of her sexual assault. It escalated to her eventually suing Columbia, and the University settled with her in early July 2017, according to CNN.

Puget Sound has a strong sense of how these things are handled on campus. This is evidenced by the recent updates to University policies, as well as by the many various types of on-campus support available to victims. Cady is clear in the fact that those support systems will not be changing their approach any time soon.

"We are going to educate ourselves obviously on what this Q&A says and what this letter says, but we are really here to be in support of victims. And that won't change," Cady said.

"I feel like this administration might still be planning on putting another clarification out. This probably isn't the end of it. I'm hoping that they listen to public comment on it. I am a bit fearful of these policies and procedures inhibiting some of that reporting. My mantra has always been that we need to talk about this stuff. It's not great to talk about and yet we need to in order for people to feel comfortable and get the support they need."



# Equifax security breach worse than expected

By Ayden Bolin

On July 29, 2017, one of the largest mass Consumer Credit Reporting Agencies, Equifax, experienced a major data breach wherein sensitive personal information regarding millions of American citizens was released. Approximately 209,000 credit card numbers for individual consumers, as well as personal identifying information for 182,000 of those individuals were also affected. This information was kept by the agency until Sept. 7, when it was officially announced via equifaxsecurity2017.com.

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the breach could affect anyone with a credit report. This rounds out to roughly 146 million Americans. The FTC also reports that the breach includes some citizens of the UK and Canada.

This announcement affects the University of Puget Sound community directly. In a mass email sent to the community on Sept. 8, Jeremy Cucco, the Associate Vice President for Technology Services and Chief Information Officer, warned of the data breach leaking personal information regarding “social security numbers, driver’s license numbers, and other sensitive information.” However, he added “that as of yet it has found no evidence that the leaked information has been used in an unauthorized manner.”

On Oct. 3, the New York Times reported that Equifax’s former chief executive, Richard F. Smith, who stepped down last week, revealed to members of Congress that the breach was the result of a single employee’s mistake.

“Why people should be concerned is because the impact of this is almost universal to the country,” Cucco said. “Chances are, the vast majority if not the entire population of this school was impacted by this hack.”

“There’s nothing that any one person here could say, ‘Oh, well I’ve done this, therefore I’m secure because this hack didn’t impact me.’ Well, no, most people didn’t realize they had an individual relationship with Equifax where their

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*“Chances are, the vast majority if not the entire population of this school was impacted by this hack,”*  
*Jeremy Cucco said.*

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personal information was being stored and shared,” said Cucco.

Equifax is one of three major Consumer Reporting Agencies (CRAs) in the United States next to TransUnion and Experian. A CRA collects a history of an individual’s credit activity. This information is reported to the CRA via lenders and creditors with whom people carry accounts. Also collected are bankruptcies, civil judgements, and other public financial records, states the Equifax website.

A main takeaway to those who are worried is not to

use the same passwords for social media as you would for more sensitive information, such as healthcare, banking or insurance.

“Let’s face it, we all use the same password in many applications, which is a terrible practice, but we do it; everybody does it,” Cucco said when asked about preventative measures. “Don’t use mom and dad’s names, don’t use the dog’s name, or things like that.”

Also according to Cucco, an important step for protecting yourself against this breach is to obtain a credit report. According to the FTC, every citizen is entitled to one free credit report every 12 months from each of the three Credit Reporting Agencies. The only authorized website to obtain this is [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com). Name, address, social security number and date of birth are all required to view this credit report.

“Look for anything suspicious. You can also put information on your credit report that says ‘do not open a card in this person’s name without contacting that person first,’” Cucco said. “We see unofficial websites where it says ‘click this and you can go to this unofficial website,’ and then you go and put your information in, and guess what happens? You’re hacked in a different way.”

It is best to keep a level head and take vigilant steps. Change passwords and work with your credit report to gauge the level of impact that this breach may have on you.

# Merritt or Woodards: Who will be Tacoma’s new Mayor?

By Andrew Izzo

The future of Tacoma was debated in the Tahoma room on Sept. 26. Mayoral candidates Jim Merritt and Victoria Woodards took to the stage before a crowd predominantly comprised of local citizens, with a few students from both University of Puget Sound and Pacific Lutheran University.

The debate was jointly hosted by the University of Puget Sound Forensics Program and the Pacific Lutheran University Department of Politics and Government.

Also on the stage that night were candidates for several other local government positions. For the Port of Tacoma Position 2, Noah Davis and Dick Marzano; for City Council at Large Position 6, Lillian Hunter and Meredith Neal; for City Council District 2, Philip Cowan and Robert Thoms. The position of mayor in the city of Tacoma is term-limited, so incumbent mayor Marilyn Strickland cannot run for re-election.

Victoria Woodards formerly held the position of Deputy Mayor in 2014, as well as City Council at Large Position 6 from 2009 until she stepped down in 2016 to announce her mayoral run, according to her website.

Jim Merritt is a Tacoma architect and business owner, and he was awarded the “Tacoma Hometown Hero” award by the City Council in 2003, according to his website. He is active in the local community as a member of Tacoma Rotary and as a basketball coach. His daughter attends Pacific Lutheran University.

The debate itself was about 40 minutes long, with roughly four minutes dedicated to each of 10 questions. These questions focused largely on environmental issues and social justice issues. These questions were prepared before the debate by the moderators.

Merritt put a heavy emphasis on

local involvement in the government, and spoke out against backroom deals that impact the city of Tacoma.

“I will change the culture of local government,” Merritt said, when asked about what he brought to the table as mayor.

Woodards also made a note of local involvement and focused on equity for the people of Tacoma.

“I want to be your mayor because Tacoma provides opportunity for every single person,” Woodards said.

The first question focused on the Northwest Detention Center, and the possible expansions to it. Both candidates spoke against the detention center, and both talked about using the enforcement of local codes and laws to halt or limit expansions of the center.

“We can use the voice of the city to stop expansions,” Woodards said.

Another big question of the debate surrounded the Puget Sound Energy Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) plant. The candidates differed on this issue, with Woodards in support of it, and Merritt against it.

The liquid natural gas plant is a new refinery that is currently under construction near the city and port of Tacoma. There have been protests and outcry from members of the community, as well as the nearby Native American Tribes.

Woodards said that she trusts the experts that design and enforce the safety regulations, both for the workers and for the environment. She supported liquid natural gas as a transition fuel, saying, “LNG is the only option for a cleaner-burning fuel.”

“Our future is renewable,” Merritt opposed. He said that a community discussion is necessary to decide on the future of energy plants like this

in an area where so many people live.

Both candidates also support a set of interim regulations on new energy plants, but Merritt supports new regulations on existing plans as well. Woodards said she wants to make every voice heard, including the people, the incoming companies, the Native American tribes and the environmental organizations.

Tacoma Power was also a topic of concern at the debate as it raised its rates in April. Merritt said that Tacoma Power is poorly managed, and that he is not afraid to challenge budgets of institutions, regardless of size.

Woodards agreed that Tacoma Power was in need of better management, saying, “We don’t need to be charging our citizens more than they can afford, or more than we need to.”

Jolie LiBert, a sophomore Politics and Government major at Puget Sound, said that while she is not a full-time resident of Tacoma, she thinks it is important to be

aware of the issues of the city she is living in, so she attended the debate.

“There’s a lot of focus on issues of the port and clean energy, and while that is important, it takes away from the complex issues of the community,” Tacoma native Lisa Keating said.

She went on to reference the issues she would have liked to have heard addressed such as homelessness, the needs of the poor and racial inequity. Both Woodards and Merritt touched on racial inequity, though only in the frame of business ownership. A specific question about it was not posed to them by the moderator.

In the primary elections on Aug. 1, Merritt led Woodards 39 percent to 37 percent according to The News Tribune. The future of Tacoma will be decided in the General Election on Nov. 7.



**Pictured:** Victoria Woodards, left; Jim Merritt, right  
**PHOTO COURTESY OF PHOTO SERVICES/KATHERINE KESSLER**

## SECURITY UPDATES

**The following is a summary of on-campus incidents reported to Security Services between Sept. 26, 2017 and October 2, 2017:**

Security responded to three alcohol violations. These incidents involved minors in possession of alcohol on campus. All three incidents occurred in residential

areas.

Security also responded to three drug violations. These incidents all involved possession of marijuana on campus in residential areas.

A student reported their vehicle was broken into while it was parked on North 18th Street near the Chapel. Personal

belongings were stolen from the vehicle.

**Crime Prevention**

Crime prevention is a community responsibility. Please do your part to keep the campus safe. Security staff work 24/7 and are available to assist you. Always report suspicious activity immediately to Security Services (253.879.331). Be

mindful of your safety and security by using our 24-hour safety escort program and by keeping belongings secured. Contact a member of our team if you have questions or concerns about campus safety. We are here to serve you.

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The Trail is an independent, student-run organization funded by ASUPS. The Trail seeks to produce a credible weekly newspaper that serves as a comprehensive source of information relevant to its readership. The Trail acts as an archival record for the university, serves as a link between University of Puget Sound and the greater Tacoma community and provides an open forum for student opinion and discourse.  
**Visit [trail.pugetsound.edu](http://trail.pugetsound.edu) for the full mission statement.**



# University grapples with repeated instances of anti-Semitic graffiti

By Emily Schuelein

Over the months of July, August and September, three cases of anti-Semitic vandalism found on campus were reported, according to Director of Security Todd Badham.

The first piece of vandalism was found on a “handrail on the music building. The second one was on the bike rack on the northeast corner of the science center by the main concert hall entrance. The last one was written... on a light concrete wall as part of Thomas Hall,” Badham said.

“I keep in touch with the Tacoma Police Department and it’s nothing that they’ve seen, you know, outside of campus that they’re aware of. It’s not part of a bigger problem that they’re working on,” Badham said.

In response to who is responsible for the vandalism, Badham said there is “at least a good assumption that it’s done by the same person. They’re all written in open spaces, you know, open public spaces, so it’s hard to know if it’s a member of the community or someone coming to campus.”

All of the vandalism was done using a gold paint pen, “the writing’s real similar, [the] theme seems to be consistent, the medium, the tool they’re using, seems to be consistent,” Badham said.

Jewish student leaders described

how they heard about the incidents.

“I was on campus on Aug. 19 as a perspectives leader and Dave Wright sent out a text to various Jewish life leaders on campus [after the vandalism was found],” Matt Rothman, Treasurer and Membership Liaison of Hillel, said. “We made an announcement at the end of I am Puget Sound and there was a space provided,” he continued.

Members of Hillel expressed concerns about whether Jewish students will feel safe on campus following acts of anti-Semitic vandalism.

“I personally do not feel unsafe but I’ve heard several other students in reaction to these incidents say that they feel unsafe on campus or just as a visibly Jewish person,” Rothman said.

On Aug. 21, a campus-wide email was sent from Chief Diversity Officer Michael Benitez, about the anti-Semitic graffiti found on a bike rack near Thompson Hall.

“The two areas where we say, you know, it might be right to send out a campus-wide message, for example, is if it rises to a level of jeopardizing student safety and welfare of our community members or, particularly, if individuals or certain groups are targeted specifically,” Benitez said.

The Bias-Hate Education

Response Team (BHERT) page on the University’s website states that BHERT “aims to foster greater awareness of bias and hate on campus and how incidents of bias and hate may be shaping our community. BHERT cultivates a space for proactive dialogue related to emerging trends of bias or hate incidents on campus.”

“What can we do in response, but also proactively to honor, to acknowledge not only the work that needs to happen here so that we can provide more education on anti-Semitism and anti-Semitic awareness and how you confront that or just how you respond to it when you’re confronted with it,” Benitez said.

“If we have a significant amount of anti-Semitism on this campus and we are at an institution that’s saying, you know, we are an inclusive community, then it’s also our responsibility to honor and celebrate that particular culture that we’re inviting here under the guise of inclusion. By carrying out some programming that relates culturally to who you are because you are part of this community,” Benitez said.

Hillel Vice President Rebekah Sherman aims to be productive

following these events.

“I’m choosing to channel my emotions in response to these anti-Semitic incidents into pushing to get things done to improve situations like this on campus. I think if we can use these incidents as fuel to kind of push

ourselves and our community and the administration to be more aware and more inclusive and more considerate of all sorts of diversity, I think that would be a victory,” Sherman said.

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# Students gather for vigil for the Rohingya

By Keely Coxwell

“The Rohingya are a really small Muslim ethnic minority from Myanmar’s Rakhine state,” Jae Bates ‘18 said. Bates organized an interfaith vigil for the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar. The vigil was held Sept. 26 in the Piano Lounge.

The conflict between the Rohingya and the majority-Buddhist Myanmar government has endured for decades but things escalated this past August.

“After the military took over the Burmese government (now Myanmar) in 1962 [the

the Rohingya people are just Bangladeshi illegal immigrants that live inside Myanmar,” Bates said. “They believe that to protect Buddhist religion you need to expel these people from the state.

“A lot of people have described what is happening as genocide because the government is being pretty systematically violent and there is a lot of killing happening,” Bates said. “People have described it as an apartheid situation.”

The United Nations has rated the

military police, to subdue the people, killing them, and they set fire to a lot of villages. Which the state is denying, but there is very clear video evidence and pictures of this happening,” Bates said. “This has forced hundreds and thousands of [Rohingya] to flee to Bangladesh.”

It has been significantly difficult to document what is happening in Myanmar and to the Rohingya people because the Myanmar government denies most of what has happened, saying that it has been defending the state against terrorism, according to a report by Al Jazeera.

According to Chawalit, no South East Asian country wants to accept Rohingya refugees because they are Muslim and viewed as a social, political and economic threat.

“Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia have all been involved in “ping-ponging” these refugees. Bangladesh does not want any more; more than once they have used soldiers to discourage more refugees from entering Bangladesh,” Chawalit said. “Furthermore, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations has a policy of non-interference.”

Five people spoke at the vigil and 20 people were in attendance. Chawalit gave information on the background of the ethnic genocide of the Rohingya people and Bates addressed Buddhist religious violence and its connection to the Rohingya. Haneen Rasool ‘18 and Muslim Student Alliance (MSA) president Ella Frazer ‘18 each read a passage.

“I’m organizing the vigil because as a Buddhist student on campus it was just really on my mind constantly and I’m really good friends with some Muslim students here and it was also on their mind,” Bates said. “It was a conscious decision to only have Muslim and Buddhist people speak at the vigil. ... We just felt like it was our responsibility to do something,” Bates said.

Bates acknowledged that it is difficult to

do something in this situation. The United States is very removed from this conflict and it is difficult to find organizations to donate to where to money will go to the right place.

“I think ‘doing something about it’ is just being aware ... Reading more about it, researching, because it’s not just something that has been happening now,” Bates said.

“I went to the vigil out of curiosity,” Zara Bagasol ‘20 said. “I’m also a part of Asian Pacific Club and the Christian fellowship, where I heard of the vigil.”

“Southeast Asia is thought of as a place that is just really happy and peaceful, a place to travel in and backpack through. But when it comes down to people’s real lives and, like, ethnic conflicts people don’t really pay attention,” Bates said. “Also the Rohingya are a very, very small ethnic group in the world.”

“I unfortunately had not heard of the conflict before this,” Bagasol said.

“The most tangible thing I got from the vigil was that there are things going on in the world that we are blindsided by and are hidden behind our day to day struggles,” Bagasol said. “There are a lot of other people in the world struggling to even survive.

“Being in a space where people who were Buddhist, Muslim, Christian, nonsecular all in the same space sharing information and giving respect for the same cause was enlightening because that doesn’t happen often,” Bagasol said.

According to Al Jazeera, on Sept. 28 a boat capsized leaving 19 dead and 50 more Rohingya refugees missing. This prompted Nikki Haley, the United States ambassador to the United Nations, to call for punishment of Myanmar’s military leaders.

You can donate to Islamic Relief USA to support the Rohingya at irusa.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

Rohingya] were deliberately excluded from the census,” Chanel Chawalit ‘18 said. “In 1978, the military implemented Operation Nagamin which was reportedly meant for rooting out extremist Islamic rebels, but was a front for rounding up and taking away documentation of Rohingya. This led to widespread violence and some 200,000 Rohingya leaving Burma.”

“The Myanmar government believes that

Rohingya as one of the most marginalized groups in the world.

“In terms of rights to statehood, rights to citizenship, anything in terms of their human rights, they have very few,” Bates said.

According to National Geographic, in August a small group of Rohingya militants attacked the police.

“The state interpreted that as terrorism so ... they sent in paramilitary troops, like



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## U.S. continues to fail Puerto Rico

By Karlee Robinson

Western complacency is at an all-time high. Preoccupied by our own national crises, we are failing Puerto Rico.

A few weeks ago the U.S. National Hurricane Center (NHC) reported Hurricane Maria, a Category 5 hurricane maintaining wind speeds of 160 miles per hour, travelling southeast of St. Croix in the Virgin Islands. The effects of Maria were devastating and beyond predictable repair.

One week later, Hurricane Irma swept through nearby islands Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, Tortola and Barbuda. Hurricane Irma, another Category 5 storm, sustained the highest wind speeds the Atlantic has seen since Wilma in 2005. As of now, the death toll is officially 16, but that number will almost surely rise.

In a Facebook post on Sept. 18, Dominican Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit wrote, “I am honestly not preoccupied with physical damage at this time, because it is devastating ... indeed, mind boggling. My focus now is in rescuing the trapped and securing medical assistance for the injured.”

The U.S. territories, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, already existed in a state of exhaustion — a product of colonialism and inequality.

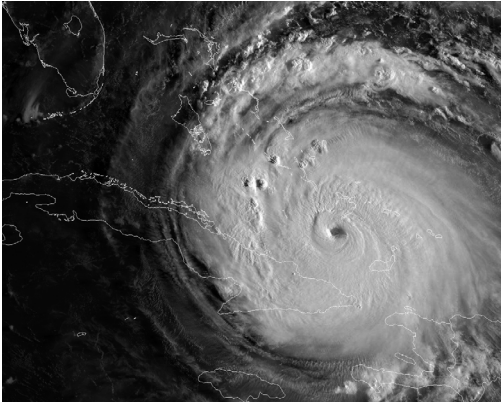
The United States was recently privatizing electricity companies on the Island against resident wishes, blinded by the self-expediting powers of capitalism and further blurring the already flawed conception of our rights in relation to Puerto Ricans’.

We can’t drain Puerto Rico of its resources without sustaining the community that is providing them. This daunting natural disaster has brought this to our attention. Rather than learning from poor past behavior, international

superpowers continue to monopolize Puerto Rico’s resources without attention to the well-being of the citizens and the land.

In a recent poll conducted on 2,000 adults by Morning Consult, only 54 percent of Americans know Puerto Ricans are American citizens.

President Trump personally showcased this larger under-acknowledgment, slamming the



Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean  
PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Mayor of San Juan in tweets posted Sept. 30: “Such poor leadership ability by the Mayor of San Juan, and others in Puerto Rico, who are not able to get their workers to help. They want everything to be done for them when it should be a community effort. 10,000 Federal workers now on Island doing a fantastic job.”

Trump compliments Federal aid and condemns local authority, seemingly ignoring that both are efforts by American citizens.

In the relationship between Puerto Rico and the U.S., Puerto Ricans’ status as American

citizens is upheld inconsistently.

“FEMA [The U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency] had Incident Management Assistance teams positioned in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico before the storm started, coordinating closely with territorial and commonwealth officials to prioritize support to the islands,” FEMA’s website stated.

Federal funding is available, a result of president Trump issuing a major disaster declaration for the Virgin Islands. Compared to home disasters like Hurricane Katrina (2005), however, The American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund raised about one billion dollars in cash and pledges — all we’ve managed to rally is \$100,000 to assist in meeting the immediate needs of those affected (in similar action administered through the Red Cross).

Even then however, in consideration of the ‘ghost’ status of alleged Red Cross donations to Haiti, capitalism may impede these efforts. Haiti is still waiting to see their money, so the Caribbean’s options seem dim at every level of advancement.

It is easy to understand the gravity of disasters when in close proximity to their damages. Regardless of our concrete responsibilities as a nation, responsibilities as human beings should prioritize our actions in the order of helping those clearly in need. We’ve showcased the capacity for greater effort and it is time we commit greater energy for relieving chaos in the Caribbean — now and in the future.

hold clothing charities and organizations that claim to give certain services to poor garment workers accountable.

The nonprofit Planet Aid, whose website describes itself as “a highly efficient nonprofit business, recycling millions of pounds of used clothing nationwide every year,” is an example of a dishonest second-hand clothing initiative. Brooks cites USA Today’s exposure of a Planet Aid tax return that reveals “that just 28 percent of its \$36.5 million in spending went to its international aid programs in 2011.”

Think twice about all things you buy, even products like Toms shoes that advertise themselves as ethical. This is what Brooks calls “so-called responsible capitalism,” where “the poor are not consulted in the process and are cast as helpless, passive recipients of aid.”

Toms shoes usually sell for about \$48, yet the shoes only cost about \$5 to make, Brooks explains, so the company is giving out very little of what they receive. The “One for One” slogan is quite misleading in terms of the true extent of Toms’ philanthropy.

Another suggestion is not to invest in “sustainable” fashion, but to research just how sustainable it truly is. Brooks explains that “ethical production systems alter rather than eliminate the exploitation of labour and nature. ...” The selling of clothes, sustainable or not, is still a for-profit industry that damages lives and the environment. Admittedly, this fact does not do much in terms of a call to action.

The disappointing reality is that current “alternatives” to fast fashion are not true alternatives. The call to action, then, must be to find those alternatives; to begin to actually dismantle the fast-fashion system, rather than merely modify it.

Learn how to do this by getting involved with organizations like Labour Under the Label, a group that advocates for living wages, safer conditions and empowerment for workers in the global garment industry.

Fast fashion will continue to be fast-harming until consumers demand a true restructuring of the garment industry.

## Letter from the Opinions Editor

CW: Sexual Violence, Assault

Dear Reader,

As we wait in anticipation for the changes being made to Title IX by the Department of Education and the Trump Administration, our attention should be focused on the question at hand: what are our personal and institutional responsibilities concerning sexual violence?

Each person on this campus is connected to every other, and we all bear responsibility to keep our community safe, to treat one another with respect and to recognize our failures and struggles in a productive way. We are individually responsible for our actions and the responses they provoke, as well as communally responsible for the actions of our institution.

Our community begins to fall apart when we ignore our responsibilities, hurt each other, when we refuse to apologize, refuse to believe the experiences of those around us and when we enable the dangerous and violent behavior of our friends and of ourselves. I know we are failing our community when I hear students colloquially refer to off-campus houses as “the rape house,” or when new students are contacted before they get to campus by upper-classmen looking for new drinking buddies and party guests. “Community” disappears when we use each other as a means to an end, without stopping to consider the impressions we make and the ways our actions affect each other.

In this semester alone, we have felt the fear that comes with threats to our access to healthcare, to a safe and stable home in the United States, and to our friends and families due to their religion. We are waiting to see if control over our bodies will be threatened as well. Whether or not these executive orders and proposed legislation have touched your life directly, we feel this fear as a community and we should respond with each other in mind.

I experienced my assault twice: the night it happened and the day I received the letter from the University of Minnesota telling me there wasn’t enough evidence to be sure my abuser was really an abuser. As I wait for more information from Betsy DeVos, I have realized that I live this experience every day, from the day I met my abuser in the seventh grade to the night that person decided not to listen to me and every minute afterwards. I live this experience every time I decide to trust another person, and every time I need to lean on my community for support.

When our representatives and institutions fail to protect us, it becomes more important for every member of our community to consider the needs of those around us. Regardless of the decisions made by the Department of Education in the next few months, or the threats from the White House that will inevitably keep coming, it is our responsibility to protect and fight for the well-being of those who feel this fear directly. It is our responsibility to take this seriously, attend Green Dot training, check in with each other, and work to end the culture that enables predatory behavior and sexual violence. When our representatives fail, it is our responsibility to ensure that fewer of us live with experiences that cannot be reconciled.

Sincerely,  
Ella Frazer  
Opinions Editor

## Sustainable consumerism and fast fashion

By Sarah Buchlaw

Does it make any sense that those who make the clothing of a multi-billion dollar apparel industry are too poor to purchase any themselves?

“Fast fashion” is a term in the retail industry for the high-speed transference of trends from runways to store racks. Fast fashion is made possible by exploiting the cheap labor of workers in developing countries. These workers are criminally underpaid, yet pay most of the real-life cost of Western clothing consumption.

Andrew Brooks’ book, “Clothing Poverty: The Hidden World of Fast Fashion and Second-hand Clothes,” examines the ways in which hyper-consumerism in the mainstream apparel industry impacts the lives of people in the developing world. “Western consumers have a huge amount of choice over what they wear, because poor people across the developing world grow cotton, dye materials and stitch fabric, and are paid low wages, which keep clothes cheap for those consumers to buy,” Brooks says.

“These low wage levels cannot allow cotton farmers and factory workers to consume the garments they help make ... Flows of used clothing reach the poorest of people in the global South and lock them into another relationship of dependency.” The highly polarized divide in consumption is between what Brooks calls the affluent North and the poor South, the two halves of the world in terms of capitalism.

Nearly all clothing donations in the United States get shipped outside of the country and back to the developing countries that created those textiles in the first place. New clothing is so important to our capitalist society that there is little demand for second-hand clothing. Of course, there are plenty of thrift stores that thrive in the United States, but that is just one small apparel market — in places like Bolivia and Papua New Guinea, second-hand clothing is often consumers’ only option.

“What was repeatedly documented in markets in Kenya, Mozambique and Zambia was that clothing customers cared most about

price and the physical quality of clothing,” Brooks writes. “Local or international styles influence purchases, but are a secondary consideration.”

This leaves majority of consumers of the global North with not only the power to make their own choices about which clothing to buy, keep, and discard, but to limit the choices of consumers in the global South. These workers make the apparel industry almost unlimited in options, yet receive in return only one or two options of their own.

There is also a crucial environmental impact of fast fashion, which Brooks says increased after the Industrial Revolution but has existed for far longer: “Ever since humans began to extract a permanent social surplus from the environment, they set in motion an irreversible destruction of what was natural.”

Use of both human-made clothing materials such as polyester and natural ones such as carbon leave harmful effects on the environment. The enormous amounts of crude oil used to process petroleum into polyester and overwhelming use of pesticides on cotton plants are just two of several examples.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has even deemed several textile manufacturing sites hazardous waste generators because of the harmful solvents and acid gases that they release, Brooks says.

So how do we begin to break the cycle of exploitation, continued poverty and environmental harm that fast fashion perpetuates? Not with sympathy or the assumption that people in the developing world need (or want) our help, for one. Instead, with active changes in our part of this system.

Brooks suggests that a (gradual) limit on our exports of second-hand clothes could boost local industries, as well as paying clothing workers in developing countries actual living wages. Brooks promotes “radical advocacy and bring[ing] awareness of social justice to a popular audience,” as well as analysis of material culture as a whole.

As consumers in the United States, we can



The Happy Trail is The Trail’s weekly sex column that seeks to inform the community on issues related to sexuality and gender by addressing these topics in an education-based way. Our mission is to make the campus a safer place by normalizing and demystifying topics like safer sex practices, sexualities, kinks and polyamory, while shedding light on topics like trans rights, sexual and domestic violence, gender inequalities and intersectionality. Happy Trail correspondents are not medical professionals; if you have a medical concern contact CHWS or a local clinic. Otherwise, direct your sexuality and gender questions to nalee@pugetsound.edu. Respond to Happy Trail articles in the form of a letter to the editor sent to trail@pugetsound.edu.

# Talking dirty

By Emma Holmes



PHOTO CREDIT TO FLICKR USER JAMIN GRAY

Talking dirty in bed can be like singing in front of an audience: it’s oddly intimate, you’re sweating profusely and imagining everyone in their underwear does not actually help. However, with some deep breaths, lots of communication and a little exploration, you can muster an applause-worthy performance.

Firstly, let’s establish the line between role-playing and talking dirty. In role-playing, you’ve communicated with your partner about a certain scenario or adopted persona. Essentially, you’re pretending to be someone you’re not in a safe environment, to expand your sexual horizon.

Dirty talking, on the other hand, is communicating what’s happening (or what you want to happen) in the moment; it’s uninhibited requests and exclamations. Dirty talking can reinforce consent, build suspense and spice up foreplay. If you’ve ever said something akin to, “Oh, that feels so good,” then you’ve already started dirty talking. Congratulations! If you want to build on your skill-set, read on for some tips and tricks.

### Step One

Chill out. Imperfection is sexy. The first step to talking dirty, like almost anything, is to understand that you *will* mess up. You’ll mumble or sneeze or say something you saw in your first R-rated movie. If you can move beyond the fear that those things will happen, then you’ll ditch inhibition and relax (physically and mentally) into the sexual experience.

### Step Two

The next step to talking dirty is, quite literally, self-explanatory. Moan, laugh, speak and emote; basically, start talking! Let your partner know what you’re experiencing. Use your sight, touch, taste and smell to express your pleasure. One common misconception about dirty talk is that it should be tailored to your partner. Don’t take away from both your experiences by feeling pressure to perform. If you’re not experiencing moan-worthy pleasure, then direct or compliment your partner. “I love it when you touch me there,” or “you look so hot right now” can go a long way towards making both of you more comfortable (and more turned on).

### Step Three

Finally, as you grow more comfortable with your partner (and yourself), don’t shy away from exploring what’s sexy for you. If talking dirty crosses into role-play (“I want you to pretend to be fixing the door”), or into bondage (“I want you to tie me up”), then that’s great. If it feels weird to talk more than necessary (establishing consent) during sex, then leave it alone! There’s no right or wrong way to have sex, as long as all parties are continuously and enthusiastically on board.

Talking dirty comes down to letting your partner know you’re genuinely enjoying yourself. It’s erotic because its uninhibited, raw and authentic. Dirty talk doesn’t need to be serious, either; feel free to laugh, smile and tease. You’re sexiest when you’re comfortable and confident. Everyone deserves to have as much or as little safe, consensual sex as they want, so release those judgements and flex those SAT adjectives you never use.

# Feelin’ it: *A writer’s quest to touch their own ovaries*

By Meghan Rogers

I didn’t know that it was possible to feel your own ovaries, uterus, cervix or any of that good stuff until a fellow Logger mentioned it to me. I was shocked.

If you have these body parts, it’s very highly recommended that you see a gynecologist for annual examinations once you turn 21. This is largely for the pap smear, where the gynecologist will take cells from your uterus and check them for HPV. Unless you have abnormal pain or other problems down there, you are not required to see a gynecologist until you turn 21.

You are able to feel your ovaries during the bimanual exam that occurs during an annual exam. This is when two fingers are inserted inside the vagina to feel the cervix and ovaries. If you have an interest in exploring your own body, however, you can do much of the bimanual exam yourself. Just make sure you wash your hands first!

According to Libby Baldwin, Physician Assistant at Counseling, Health and Wellness Services, many people with shorter vaginas are able to feel their cervix during menstruation or during penetrative intercourse. However, not everyone will be able to. The cervix lies at the back of the vaginal canal, so essentially you just need to reach as far as you can. It should feel like the tip of your nose, texture-wise, and is commonly described as resembling a small donut.

As for the ovaries, the tilt of your uterus determines whether or not you will be able to feel them. Because of this, some people will not be able to feel them unless they have a cyst and they are very enlarged. But to test it out, use two fingers to push up on your vaginal wall, which will push up your uterus and your ovaries. Then place your hand on your abdomen and press down to try to feel them from the inside and the outside. Remember, just because you don’t feel them doesn’t mean you’ve been misled your whole life — everyone is built differently!

Even though it is beneficial to be able to check your own body for discomfort or enlargement when performing this test on yourself, don’t assume that you must be able to do this to notice a problem. Serious issues with the cervix and ovaries will likely be felt severely in daily life. There are also no sexual benefits to doing either of these examinations. That being said, being able to understand your body, particularly

a part of the body that has been largely been kept a mystery in education and our culture is incredibly beneficial.

“In sex ed in school, you just see those weird diagrams; they don’t actually show you on yourself where reproductive organs are at all. It’s always just in pictures,” Emma Ferguson ‘18 said. “Meanwhile everyone has seen a dick, everybody knows what a penis looks like, everybody knows what balls look like, everyone knows where they are on your body and relatively how large they should be in relation to your body. But when you’re thinking about your ovaries and your uterus I had no clue where the f--- those were, other than the fact that they were under my belly button. Because that’s all they tell you. That’s not helpful!”

Keeping up vaginal and reproductive health is very important, and having the toolbox of knowledge to be proactive about it yourself is crucial. If you don’t feel comfortable doing this on your own, feel free to get your money’s worth at your next trip to the gyno and ask your doctor for a hand!

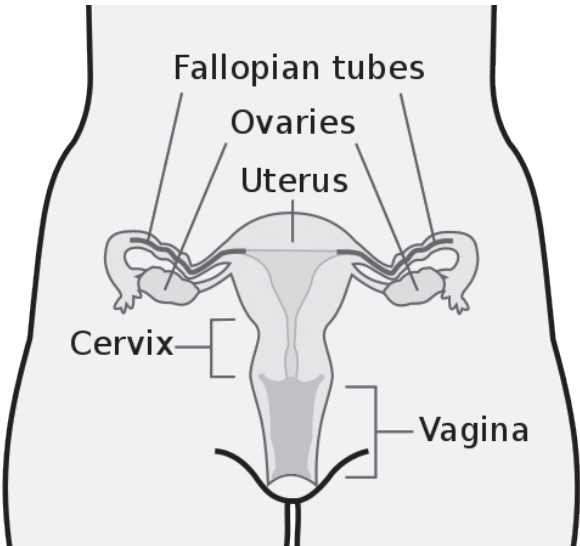


PHOTO CREDIT TO WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

## Crossword Puzzle: A trip to the gyno

By Nayla Lee

1

2

3

4

5

6

Across

1. controlling the number of and intervals between births (2 words)

2. copper or hormonal long-acting reversible birth control (such as Mirena or ParaGard)

- Down
- the procedure in which a gynecologist tests for cancerous cells by swabbing the cervix (2 words)
  - the tool used to dilate the vagina and gain access to the cervix
  - doctors can use this to test for infections, pregnancy, and STIs (2 words)
  - pin-sized pathway between vagina and uterus
  - hormonal long-acting reversible birth control (such as Nexplanon) (2 words)
  - contraception usually available for free in gynecology offices and at CHWS

4 - Top Loaders

8 - Double Loaders

Large 3 Load Dryers

Big 4 Load Dryers

Large 4 Load Washers

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# WA Secretary of State lecture encourages voter engagement

By Angela Cookston

The Center for Intercultural and Civic Engagement (CICE) hosted a lecture on Sept. 26, National Voter Registration Day, with Washington Secretary of State Kim Wyman, on the importance of voter engagement: why people should want to vote and why that matters.

Kim Wyman was elected to be Washington's 15th Secretary of State in 2012 and re-elected in 2016. She is only the second woman to hold this position in Washington's history. "Secretary Wyman promotes civility and civic engagement and is committed to connecting people with their government," the Washington Secretary of State website states.

Wyman began her talk with a disclaimer: "This will be interactive. I just can't stand

behind the podium and lecture; it's not me." She began with an activity that had the audience to engage in a hypothetical concert scenario. They got to choose to see either Ed Sheeran, Fergie or Thomas Rhett. The catch to the exercise was that only four people in the audience got to decide who everyone would go see at the hypothetical concert. The four audience members each picked Fergie. Many other audience members were disappointed that Ed Sheeran was not chosen.

Fundamentally, the problem with this exercise was that the choice did not represent the whole group, since not everyone participated in the decision.

"Okay so all of this stuff doesn't happen in real life, clearly, because why? Representative

form of government," Wyman said, tying the activity back to voter engagement.

In Washington State, there are elections every year. Citizens get to vote to decide on legislation and elected officials, unlike the concert exercise in which not everyone was allowed to choose.

Wyman then had the audience engage in another activity that represented real life. She had everyone stand up. "What I want you to imagine is that right now, all of you standing here represent the state of Washington," Wyman said.

"Washington State has a population of about 7.2 million people. But when we have an election, do all 7.2 million people get to vote?" Wyman asked the audience.

The answer was no, because not everyone in Washington is qualified to register to vote.

The Secretary of State website states that in order to qualify to become a registered voter in Washington, someone must be a U.S. citizen and a legal resident of Washington. They must be at least 18 years old, and not under the supervision of the Department of Corrections for a felony.

Wyman had people sit down one at a time to show how many Washingtonians' votes aren't being represented. She had a percent of the audience sit down to show that of those who are eligible, only some are actually registered to vote. And of those registered, only some actually voted for lower-level political officials and electoral college members, who

are ultimately the people that decide who wins the presidential election.

In the end, only four people were left standing. These people represented the small number of Washingtonians who were really getting represented in elections.

In the presidential election of 2016, only 76.83 percent of the voting-age population was registered to vote, and only 78.76 percent of those registered actually voted. In the end, only 60.52 percent of Washington's eligible voting population voted.

The numbers are worse for non-presidential elections. In the mid-term election in 2014, only 39.51 percent of the voting-age population voted. Additionally, in the Pierce County 2017 primary election, only 12.4 percent of 500 thousand registered voters voted. The above statistics came from the WA Secretary of State website.

"Most people only vote in the presidential election," Wyman said. "But by and large the president of the United States does not affect your daily life."

Wyman explained which things were decided by locally elected officials. "At the end of the day, the quality of the roads you drive on, the books your kids may read in school, how fast a first responder gets to you in an accident [and the] quality of the water that comes out of your tap ... all of those decisions are made by local elected officials," Wyman said.

"The great irony of what we just demonstrated is that very few people are the ones picking the mayors, and the city council members, and the school board members and the fire commissioners. And yet they're the people that really do affect how your quality of life is here in Pierce County," Wyman said.

18-25 year olds are the lowest percentage of people who vote. Why does this low percent of engagement matter? "When you don't engage, you let other people vote for you," Wyman said.

To vote in Washington's Nov. 7, 2017 election, register online or by mail before Oct. 9 or in person before Oct. 30.



PHOTO CREDITS TO: QIARA MILLEN

*CICE Voter Engagement Specialist Matthew Bell poses with Kim Wyman in Rotunda.*

# The human behind Humans of Puget Sound

By Christina Pelletier

Senior Gabe Newman's passion for photography has only grown since he set foot on campus four years ago, and his skill and technique have developed alongside it.

As a first-year at the University of Puget Sound, Newman was disappointed to see that there were not any photography classes on campus, but was able to meet other first-years with interests in photography during his orientation week.

Later that year, Newman was hired by Photo Services where he could keep up with his photography aside from his freelance portraiture business.

Newman wanted members of the University of Puget Sound community to share their stories. "I think that everyone has something that they can say," Newman said. "It's a question of whether ... they're willing to let us pull that from them." He decided to start a "Humans of Puget Sound" (HOPS) page, modeling it after the popular Facebook page "Humans of New York," run by Brandon Stanton, now with more than 18 million Facebook followers.

There are many factors that go into how HOPS selects people to be featured. "A lot of it comes down to looking for people who seem as though they're open to having a photo taken," Newman said. "Sometimes there was definitely an aesthetic that sort of just drew us in, if a person looks like they have an interesting story to tell."

As time went on, Newman and his friends were able to travel off campus where he noticed a change in interviews. "Off campus ... the quality of interviews we got [was higher]," Newman said, "because when we ask people to tell us about themselves the first thing that comes to mind isn't necessarily their major."

Newman imitated Humans of New York's style; he closely followed the types of questions Stanton asked and branched off from there. Newman liked to stick with certain questions he felt drew the strongest answers out of people. "A question that we like to ask that allows people the space to dig deeper is 'Is there something that you're

struggling with right now?'" Newman said. "Everyone is struggling with something at some point and we don't all necessarily show it on the surface, but it can be very cathartic to be able to share that with someone ... you can tell a lot about a person by the story that they choose to tell," Newman said.

Newman is walking with the class of 2018, but he actually will be graduating a semester early and leaving in December. As of now, he plans on staying around the Tacoma area and working with the World Trade Center, Tacoma. Newman will be spending the rest of his time at Puget Sound working on his studies and an exciting new photography project.

"We're trying to work closely with photographers of Puget Sound and Puget Sound Outdoors to do some workshops both that have more of a landscape/wildlife focus," Newman stresses "mak[ing] the most of the institutions we do have on campus" to support other photographers.

Although Newman sees photography as just his hobby, he still admires the incredible beauty in it, and the story a single photo can tell. Newman recognizes the power of a photo and the emotions it can draw out that the viewer may not have acknowledged before. "At the end of the day if your work is producing a feeling and is able to capture a moment and tell a story then it's excellent photography."



PHOTO CREDITS TO: CHRIS ROACH



## Beloved Shanece bids farewell to the Diner as she starts new phase of her life

By Molly Wampler



PHOTO CREDITS TO: PATRICK ZIMMERMAN

"You're the best!" one student yelled to former Diner employee Shanece Johnson-Wilson during our interview. Several others stopped by with hugs, miss-you's and stories, and she has only been gone for a week. With her high spirits and loud laugh, Johnson-Wilson liked to make herself known on campus, and students loved her. "She is energetic and funny and relatable, and treats you like

family," senior Kristina Braverman said.

After four years at The University of Puget Sound, Johnson-Wilson left her stable job to go back to school.

"Of course it's hard," Johnson-Wilson said. Even though it's only been a week, she already misses the University. "I miss the interactions with the students, I miss conversations, the hugs," she said. "The students were my life."

They were her support system, too. "We went through the election together, we went through a lot of political things together, laughs, cries, everything," she recalled. "We went through all these transitions together and it's kind of hard just to leave."

An opportunity to go back to school pulled Johnson-Wilson away from Puget Sound. "I didn't want to leave," Johnson-Wilson said. "I had to leave because there was no way that [the Diner] could work with my school schedule." She is now enrolled in her first term at Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood, where she is studying to become a medical assistant.

However, Johnson-Wilson isn't sure that she will stay on the medical assistant track. Clover Park also offers a hospitality management major, which is of more interest to Johnson-Wilson. "[Becoming a medical assistant] doesn't really make me happy. Hospitality makes me happy," she said. For now, Johnson-Wilson isn't exactly sure what she will be pursuing, but is just glad to be back in the classroom after taking nearly a decade off after high school.

To make up for her full-time employment at The Diner, Johnson-Wilson now works two part-time jobs: a nightly graveyard shift at a local home for autistic boys, and weekend janitorial work.

She has class from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. every day, and spends time with her 3-year-old daughter, Journey, in the evenings. "It'd be different if I didn't have a child," Johnson-Wilson said, in reference to making the tough decision to leave Puget Sound. "But the fact that I'm not just supporting myself, I'm supporting my child as well ... it throws a wrench in things."

In her little free time, Johnson-Wilson is working on a new project at her school. "There are a lot of minorities on campus," she said. "I'm trying to create a club that focuses more on minorities." She wants to create a safe space for these students, a place where people can find others they relate to. "At the end of the day, some people need a safe space to vent, especially the way the world is going now ... they need to feel like they are loved and wanted."

The campus community will miss Johnson-Wilson, but there is the possibility that she might come back to the Diner in March to work on-call covering shifts.

"I am excited for her to start the next phase of her life," Braverman said, "but also selfishly sad that she won't always be around to light up my day."

## Abroad View: The far right returns to Germany

By Aidan Regan

After 12 years as Germany's Chancellor, Angela Merkel won another four-year term in Germany's Sept. 24 election. But for the first time since the 1950s, a xenophobic, far-right party will enter the German parliament.

The far-right Alternative for Germany, or AfD, party won 12.6 percent of the national vote, campaigning in opposition to many of Angela Merkel's policies, including immigration. It is now Germany's third-largest party with 94 seats in the Bundestag, the German parliament. Parties are elected into the Bundestag based on proportional representation, and Germans elect the representatives of those parties as well, by simple majority.

Germans get two votes in each election — one for a candidate, and one for a party. "Instead of the two-party, winner-take-all system we have [in America], Germans can vote their conscience ... and have the satisfaction that their elected officials, however small in percentage, are representing their interests," Puget Sound German professor Kris Imbrigotta said.

"Merkel and her center-right CDU [Christian Democratic Union] party were effectively punished at the ballot box for doing the right thing and standing up for German values: open society, respecting and acknowledging the dignity and rights of all people, the tradition of 'Gastfreundschaft,'" Imbrigotta said. Although the CDU remains the largest party in the Bundestag, they are down about 9 percent from the last election.

According to the German public broadcasting organization ARD, 99 percent of right-wing AfD voters said that Germans no longer feel safe and would like to reduce the influence of Islam. 85 percent said they wanted to protest the established political parties. AfD found the most support from voters in parts of the country that were formerly East German, an area which continues to have lower standards of living, lower salaries and lower employment rates.

AfD also campaigned with promises to protect German national identity. Since the end of World War II, expressing German national identity has been a cultural taboo. To Germans, any level of patriotism is reminiscent of Nazi nationalism. But AfD has called for a return to national pride.

During my first weekend in Berlin, I saw a far-right march outside the Bundestag building. Protesters held German flags and signs promoting the AfD. Protesters' chants of "Wir sind das Volk" (we are the German people)

and "Deutschland über alles" (Germany above all else) filled the usually-somber air of the nearby Holocaust memorials. Both phrases have a long history in Germany, but also carry Nazi connotations.

Much like President Trump did as a candidate, AfD found populist support by framing themselves as victims of the mainstream media and the political establishment. Meanwhile, controversial statements kept them in the media's spotlight.

Although AfD found success in the election, their success in governing is far from guaranteed. Several members, including Frauke Petry, AfD's former co-leader and public face, have left AfD due to internal disagreements on the party's politics and goals. Further, other German parties are uneager to work with AfD, instead opting to form a coalition excluding them.

As an American, the number of political parties in Germany seems remarkable. This plurality ensures that no one party gains too much power. It also keeps the nation away from two-party gridlock. There are now six major parties represented in the Bundestag, and many more active throughout Germany.

Germany's number of parties also gives the nation's political discourse a striking breadth of topics. Women's liberation, weapon exports, animal rights, the surveillance state and the price of rent were all common themes on the campaign posters lining Berlin's streets.

The importance of campaign posters was also a key difference from American elections. Political posters cover most streetlamps and billboards, in place of the TV advertisements and debates that characterize American elections. For Germany, elections are much less of a spectacle, and reliance on cheap campaign tools helps keep moneyed interests from dominating the political arena.

Common posters from Germany's Green Party said, "The environment isn't everything, but without the



Pictured: Bundestag, Berlin

PHOTO CREDITS TO: AIDAN REGAN

environment we have nothing," and "Healthy food doesn't come from nature that's sick." Merkel's CDU posters displayed her face with phrases such as "for safety and order." One controversial AfD poster showed a pregnant white woman with the words "New Germans? We'll make them ourselves." Another said, "Burkas? We prefer Bikinis."

Despite the anti-immigrant sentiments of AfD, Germany is more multicultural than ever. Guest workers from Turkey and Vietnam who immigrated to Germany in the 1950s, 60s and 70s are now part of the fabric of German culture. And the 1.1 million refugees admitted into Germany in 2015 (according to Politico) now call it home.

Additionally, Germany's Nazi past keeps the nation especially wary of the far-right. Brass-plated cobblestones are on every block of Berlin, commemorating the Jews murdered by the Third Reich in front of the houses where they once lived. Berlin alone has over 5,500 of these brass cobblestones, and another 40,000 exist across Europe.

Although the return of the far-right in Germany is alarming, Germans' level of civic engagement, their government's division of power and the nation's multiculturalism all suggest that AfD's success has its limit.



## Racial inequality and the NFL

By Kevin White

*(Continued from page 1...)*

While Kaepernick looks for a second chance, people like Greg Hardy, Joe Mixon, Ben Roethlisberger and Michael Vick all received one. These men were all punished (from league suspensions to actual convictions) for various crimes or accusations, but were still given contracts and starting jobs. This is what stands out to me.

Owners can freely hire men who have been abusive and never lose an ounce of sleep over what the fans think. Meanwhile, they worry about hiring a man who used his platform to protest, who is in the process of donating a million dollars to various charities, because the fans didn't like it. And that's not the fault of the owners — they're correct in their assessment. The fault lies with us as fans. As long as we as a group are more vocal over a protest than instances of abuse, the system we have will continue.

I talked to Amanda Díaz, the president of Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS) and a campus activist about the conflict between agreeing with Colin Kaepernick and being a fan of the NFL. Díaz expressed a belief that supporting the NFL conflicted with supporting Kaepernick and the Black Lives Matter movement, stating, "If there's this huge movement trying to stop the problem [of violence against various minority groups], you're going against the problem." She explained how she has dealt with similar conflicts; when there's a conflict between her beliefs and her interest in material products, Díaz looks at the bigger picture: "I always try to remove myself and think about this from an eagle eye perspective ... my morals and my values become way bigger than my commitment to a material object."

Díaz admits that this is easier for some to do than others, and that not supporting the NFL happens to be personally easy for her. For those who do

closely follow the league, she doesn't call for a complete boycott: "There are ways to go around [the conflict]; it doesn't necessarily have to be 'No more NFL.'" Díaz singles out the money that NFL fans give to the league, and suggests not watching the games live, or avoiding purchasing a TV package with NFL games. There are ways to watch the product without giving the league money. Next time you get a cable package, don't jump for the RedZone channel.

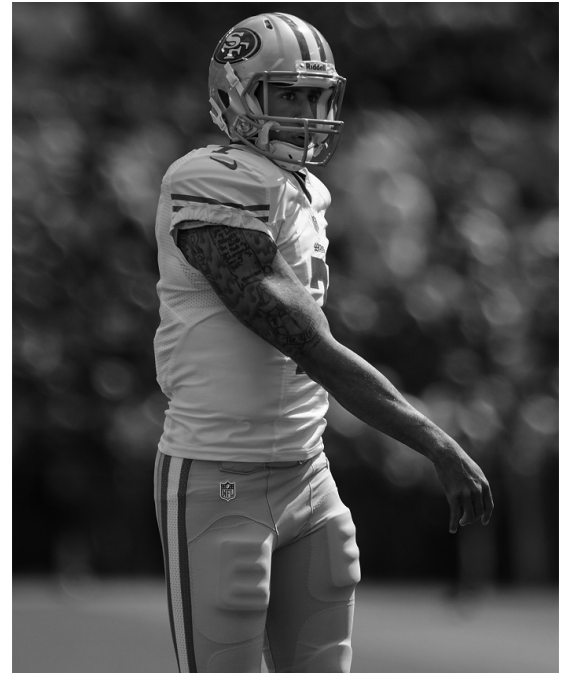
Week three of the NFL brought some important new developments to this case. Donald Trump, in a speech at an event in Alabama, said that NFL owners should fire anybody who protests during the anthem, and called the protesters SOBs, as reported by The Guardian. My colleague Zachary Fletcher should have a great article concerning this later in the section but I wanted to address it too.

The owners stood up for their players this past weekend, and that's good, but it is not as if the NFL has suddenly gained any moral authority. The NFL owners essentially proactively obeyed Trump by keeping Colin Kaepernick off the field. Furthermore, many NFL owners (and some players) supported Trump's campaign. Donald Trump has criticized groups that are his allies before. His comments on the NFL are no different, and do not suddenly mean the conflict between activism and fandom are resolved. However, the NFL athletes all showed bravery in their actions this week, and the support from the owners, however shallow it may be, is a step forward.

This weekend saw many fans threatening to stop supporting the NFL if players protested. Anybody who supports the movement the protesters are advocating for should proudly announce such support, and if any players face consequences for their protests, we should raise holy hell about it.

Despite the comments by the President, our goal as activists remains the same: to make sure that

owners know it is more costly to employ those who break the law than those who use their platform to support the voiceless.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

## Men's soccer keeps on rolling to start the season

By Tayla MacPherson

The Puget Sound men's soccer team faced Whitman College (Washington) and Whitworth University (Washington) the weekend of Sept. 23. Whitworth University's team has been Northwest Conference champions the last three years, making three appearances in the NCAA tournament. The Puget Sound men have not beat Whitworth since 2014, making this game against Whitworth extremely important.

Although this game was vital for the Loggers, the Puget Sound men wanted to treat the game against Whitworth like any other conference match. Senior Nathan Otto (Portland, Oregon) describes the week of practices leading up to the two weekend games: "There are always nerves headed into any game, and I think because we were able to focus on Whitman all week instead of Whitworth, there was no extra anxiety. The past three years, it has always come down between us and Whitworth for the conference championship, so our games have almost looked even more like a rivalry than PLU."

The Puget Sound men were nothing but excited to face Whitworth Sunday, Sept. 24, and it showed. Within the first four minutes, sophomore Dane Schatz (Kaneohe, Hawaii) scored the first goal of the match. Just 15 minutes later, Chet Selis, a senior from Portland, Oregon was able to strike a shot from 30 yards out, giving the Loggers a 2-0 lead.

Selis commented on his excitement scoring a goal against the reigning Northwest Conference champions: "No matter who it's against, scoring a goal is always exhilarating. The goal put us ahead 2-0, and after that we were determined to score a third and put the game away for good."

The third goal of the first half was scored by senior midfielder Benjamin Whitham (Claremont, California) from a penalty kick drawn in the 31st minute.

Even after three goals scored from the Loggers, Whitworth did not quit. The Pirates continued to battle until the end of the first half when they gained their first goal of the game in the 32nd minute. This ended the first half with a 3-1 Logger lead.

Both teams continued to battle throughout the entirety of the second half, but the Loggers fought harder. First-year student Cale Spence from Seattle, Washington put a fourth goal away for the Loggers, closing the deal.

Such a great win doesn't come from individual success. The Loggers' teamwork against Whitworth was unmistakable. The Puget Sound men have a love for the game that is not found on all D3 college teams.

Otto described the effort the whole team contributed to win the match: "We had a somewhat different backline against Whitworth than we had used in the past, and it was great to see Patrick step into the leftback role so comfortably. That said, our defensive success came not just from the back line, but from the fight and organization of the midfield and forwards."

As of now, the Loggers are in second place in the Northwest Conference, behind Willamette University (Oregon).

The Puget Sound men hope to continue to play well and win games. Whitham discussed the team's expectations for the rest of the season, saying, "Our team expectations going into the rest of the season remain the same as before; and that is to win the next game. Whether we win or lose, we don't want the outcome of a match to reshape our goals heading forward."

On Sept. 31 the Loggers faced Pacific University (Oregon) away and lost by one goal scored in the second half. The following day, the Loggers traveled to George Fox University (Oregon) and won by a goal from Selis in the first half.

The Puget Sound men will travel to play cross-town rivals Pacific Lutheran University (Washington) on Oct. 7 at 2:30 p.m.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LOGGERATHLETICS



## Sports Recaps

By Gabi Marrese

### VOLLEYBALL

On Friday, Sept. 30, the Loggers traveled to Willamette for the third game in their fourth straight away game. They fell to the Bearcats in a tough four-set match. Junior Kristen Miguel lead the team with 28 digs and had her second double-double of the season with 10 kills. On Saturday, the Loggers continued down the road to Linfield. The Wildcats came out with a strong two-set lead. The Loggers rallied back to win the third set with a score of 25-22, the fourth set with a score of 26-24 and the fifth with a score of 16-14. Junior Erika Smith scored 19.5 points, 15 kills and three digs in the match.

### CROSS COUNTRY

Willamette hosted the 43rd Charles Bowles Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 30. The men's team placed 17th, lead by junior Liam Monaghan with a time of 27 minutes. The Puget Sound women's team finished ninth out 18 teams. First-year student Samantha Schaffer lead the women's team with a time of 18 minutes and 30 seconds. The Loggers will compete in the Pioneer Invitational on Oct. 14 for their next race.

### MEN'S SOCCER

The men's soccer team faced Pacific in Oregon on Sept. 30. The first half remained scoreless and the Boxers were on the board in the 58th minute. The Loggers out shot the Boxers and shot six more corner kicks but were still unable to get on the board. On Sunday, the Loggers headed to George Fox. Junior Chet Selis scored the first and only goal of the game in the 38th minute. The Loggers will travel to crosstown rivals Pacific Lutheran on Saturday, Oct. 7.

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's team traveled to Whitworth on Sept. 30. The Pirates scored in the 25th minute and the Loggers did not answer until first-year student Genevieve Cheatham's goal in the 47th minute. Whitworth answered again in the 64th minute and held off the Loggers until giving up the tying goal with 18 seconds remaining. Junior Lura Morton scored her third goal of the season. Both teams fought through two overtimes but recorded their first tie. On Sept. 31, the Loggers traveled to Walla Walla and took a 3-0 lead in the first half. Cheatham scored the first goal, followed by senior Jacquelyn Anderson and finally sophomore Tayla MacPherson. Whitman scored in the 73rd minute but the Loggers held them off to mark the third conference win of the season.

### FOOTBALL

The Loggers had two costly turnovers in the first two minutes of the game against crosstown rivals Pacific Lutheran. Sophomore Paul Thomas had a few key downs in their second possession. This allowed senior quarterback Tanner Diebold to tie the game with five minutes left in the first quarter. The Loggers allowed six more points before going into halftime with a score of 20-7. Late in the third quarter, the Loggers were able to score on a 16-yard touchdown pass to senior Dustin Harrison. The Lutes kicked a field goal with 50 seconds left in the fourth quarter to seal the win with a score of 23-13. The Loggers' next game will be against Lewis & Clark during homecoming weekend on Saturday, Oct. 7. At halftime the Loggers will be recognizing the 1967 Puget Sound football team.

## The President and sports

By Zachary Fletcher

Gerald Ford played football at the University of Michigan. George H.W. Bush played first base at Yale. Richard Nixon once suggested a play to be run by the Washington Redskins. George W. Bush was part-owner of an MLB franchise, all according to USA Today.

The presidency has a long relationship with participating in sports and attending sporting events, dating back to 1910 when President Taft threw out the first ceremonial first pitch at a professional baseball game. But with his recent speeches and events, President Trump seems to be turning the tides of the presidential relationship with sports.

"Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, to say, 'Get that son of a bitch off the field right now. Out. He's fired! He's fired!'" Trump said while giving a speech in Alabama this past week. The president also singled out professional basketball player Stephen Curry in a tweet revoking his invitation to the White House, a common trip made by championship teams after their title victory.

President Trump seems to have created a new dialogue in contrast to the former office holders by inserting himself directly into the issue of kneeling for the national anthem.

Professor James Jasinski of the Communication Studies department speaks of the rhetorical nature of the president's relationship to sports: "There is an epideictic quality to presidents hosting champions at [the White House] (pro and college), celebrating excellence, commitment, teamwork." Epideictic discourse refers to the establishing of a community centered around particular values, in this case the celebration of a championship team.

"Sports often becomes an allegory for life," Jasinski added, noting Reagan's use of 1984 summer Olympics in his reelection campaign.

"In his recent book on populism, Benjamin Moffitt discusses the way all political leaders, not just populists, have to 'perform ordinariness.' For some, sports fills the bill," Jasinski said.

The history of the president in sports has evolved to include the duty of honoring champions in D.C., and the idea of being involved in citizens' lives in the form of sports.

But what has Trump done to change that? How has he influenced the way presidents and sports interact?

Questioning a player's right to kneel and their right to free speech is something new for the president. Calling out individual players in a negative way has also never been done before, especially over the medium of Twitter.

Professor Bill Haltom of the Politics and Government department acknowledges that, saying, "It gets attention, I guess. It may punish Curry for too obviously dissing Trump. Or it may just be another tantrum."

"The current president relishes violating norms of presidential behavior," Jasinski said.

These recent developments of Trump's attack on the current relationship of the president and sports changes the way people look at the office of the president, and it changes the way people

look at sports.

"Scholars and politicians have used the expression 'dignity of the office,' and specifically the idea of making sure that behavior doesn't tarnish the 'dignity of the office,' to discuss a powerful norm that has curbed certain forms of behavior," Jasinski said. "All this president cares about is publicity. It's too early to speculate how his behavior will impact the office. If Americans tacitly endorse his authoritarian demagoguery, the office might be changed dramatically," he added.

Professor Haltom sees that "Presidents offer their opinions about taste, behavior and practices in many walks of life. Presidents thereby pander, posture and pontificate. The prestige of the office has seldom been lower, so I do not see any lasting effects."

ESPN anchor Jemele Hill, host of SC6, was also called out by White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders for comments calling President Trump a white supremacist. Sanders called the ESPN anchor's comments a "fireable offense," according to The Hill. Trump's comments have now received opposition from both the players and the commentators in the sports world, yet his administration has shown no hesitation in going after either one.

As far as the way people look at sports, the new wave of attacks has spurred some change in the fans of the sport. There was intense backlash by many fans of the NFL online, posting videos of themselves burning tickets or jerseys to boycott their teams allowing players and owners to stand and kneel together. There was also a call for free speech, a drive by many to protect those players and get to the deeper racial meaning of the movement as started by Colin Kaepernick a year ago.

"This legitimizes the players as human beings that are able to engage in political discourse," junior John Leslie (Seattle, Washington) said. Bringing attention to an issue like this is one of the first thing Leslie points to.

"I don't think it places any shame on the game. If anything it's a potential catalyst for social change because the NFL does have such a wide breath of viewers," he added.

Trump's comments have gotten responses from major athletes across the sports world, many fighting back and opposing what he had to say. Richard Sherman, safety for the Seattle Seahawks, tweeted that "The Behavior of the President is unacceptable and needs to be addressed. If you do not Condemn this divisive Rhetoric you are Condoning it!!" Some NFL teams didn't come out of the locker rooms for the national anthem on Sunday, while others had owners, players and servicemen linking arms on the field together.

While this issue has caused a multitude of reactions from athletes and citizens alike, one thing is certain: this is not normal. President Trump is changing the way people look at athletes, the sports world, and the idea of free speech. For now it's the NFL, the NBA and the issue of kneeling that Trump has inserted himself into. What will come next?

## Outdoor resources readily available for students

By Will Keyse

As the sun's golden rays begin to appear less and less often between the infamous Washington showers, Puget Sound students take to the great outdoors while it's still relatively pleasant to do so. Rain notwithstanding, the campus and Tacoma are fantastic locations in which to get linked up with outdoor opportunities.

The first stop for any of your outdoor needs is the home of Puget Sound Outdoors (PSO), the Expeditionary House, located at the corner of 16th Street and Alder Street. Dubbed "the Expy," the house offers a variety of services to Puget Sound students.

"One of the main goals of PSO is to make the outdoors as accessible as possible," junior trip coordinator Hadley Reine said. "Having low prices for trips is one way we try to make PSO monetarily feasible for everyone. Day hikes are normally around \$15 and overnight trips are in the realm of \$50. Also, if you're going on a trip then all rentals from the Expy are free! This is a policy that is brand new this year. Included in that \$15 cost is everything from a headlamp to hiking boots and raincoat."

Along with hiking and overnight backpacking trips, PSO sends out trips for climbing, snowshoeing, kayaking, mountain biking, and skiing. Students can sign up for all of these trips at the Expy.

Interested in leadership positions in the outdoors? PSO runs a program in the spring known as the Outdoor Leadership Experience (OLE), where students spend five weeks learning the principles of outdoor leadership before culminating in a four-day trip on the Olympic coast. Completion of OLE allows students to then lead trips of their own, receive discounts on rental gear and acquire a wealth of knowledge about the outdoors.

Alaina Geibig, a sophomore student coordinator in the Expeditionary, talked about her experience with OLE and becoming a PSO leader:

"Going through OLE was a fantastic experience for me," Geibig said. "You get connected with a group of people who are all passionate about getting outside and teaching others how to enjoy the outdoors safely and sustainably. Being able to lead trips for free isn't a bad perk either — just last weekend I was able to lead a trip out to the Olympic Hot Springs which was a ton of fun!"

Aside from Puget Sound Outdoors, there are several organizations in the greater Tacoma area that offer college students a route to outdoor leisure. Edgeworks Climbing (a ten-minute drive from campus) offers a discounted rate to Puget Sound students on Wednesday nights from 8-10, and the Climbing Club helps organize carpools to get there. The Mountaineers in Old Town Tacoma also offers trips and volunteer opportunities outside the Puget Sound community.

"If you want to get off campus in a non-PSO setting, Point Defiance Park is a great place to hang your hammocks or walk along the beach, and it's a short drive or bus ride away," Reine said. "If you're adventuring a little bit farther away from campus, Mt. Rainier is a staple of western Washington hiking. Tolmie Peak Lookout, Melmont Ghost Town, and Burroughs Mountain are a few of my favorite day hikes in the area."

The Expeditionary is open Monday-Friday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Combat Zone is *The Trail's* satire section.

*The Combat Zone is intended to be a **satirical** work. The views and opinions expressed by the Combat Zone do not necessarily reflect those of The Puget Sound Trail, ASUPS, concerned parties or the University of Puget Sound. Please submit compliments or complaints in the form of letters to the editor.*

# Gals go out and they look great!

By Lee L. Benbow

Last Friday, something was in the air on the campus of the University of Suget Pound. Not only was it a full moon, but Catlyn, Kateline and Keightlynn hit the town looking great. It was the end of a long hard week and the girls really needed this. Just as luck would have it, Keightlynn's lab partner's second cousin was having a kickback!

The gals had a feeling even before they left that it was going to be a fun night. "I just knew when I laced up my new white Converse that it was gonna be one of the times that I look back on and smile," Catlyn said. The kickback was a perfect mix of people they might sit in front of in class and possible new connections. "One of my absolute favorite sayings is 'there are no strangers, only potenial new friends,'" Caitlyn said, "and I feel like the mix of people there could maybe someday be the people I say hi to in passing."

"I was soooooo relieved when I arrived and Greg from sociology wasn't there," Kateline said. (Anyone who is anyone knows that Greg ghosted Kateline after they got coffee that one time.)

Of course, the night was not as effortless as Catlyn's social media made it look. "We spent three days making our outfits match without being the annoying girls who, like, *match*," Catlyn said. "But, like, all the work really paid off when I got my most likes ever on the Insta from that night," Kateline said. "It's just a shame that Bryan wasn't there to see how good I am without them in my life. I hope the 300-second Snap story I posted really showed them what they are missing." When asked about the prep work, besides picking out outfits, Kateline pulled up a 24-page Google doc of proposed Instagram post captions. "We wanted to find just the right vibe, without too many emojis, but still hashtagged, funny and cute!" Catlyn said.

"It's just too bad Caitlyne couldn't be there, it was her mom's 50+ birthday and she was in Olympia," Keightlynn said. *The Flail* reached out to Caitlyne to see how the FOMO (fear of missing out) was affecting her. "Yeah, I'm not gonna lie, it was really hard to miss

what quite possibly might have been the best night of my college experience, but I'm working through it. I've contacted CHWS and we have a meeting set up two months from now," Caitlyne said.

Although the events of the night are important, the real noteworthy spectacle was how good the gals looked — like, they looked *so good*. Even Kaeightlin commented a heart-eye emoji on their insta posts, "and she, like, *never* comments on anyone's posts," Keightlynn said. *The Flail* conducted a survey at the fraternity Chai Kappa Omega-3 to see just how good the gals looked. 45 percent of members said they looked great, 35 percent said they looked better than usual, and 25 percent said they looked better than Kateeeeline, "which is really saying something ever since Kateeeeline got her neck brace off," an anonymous member of Chai Kappa Omega-3 added. But the frat boys weren't the only ones to notice. "I literally got compliments from everyone. I mean, like, girls from sorority Phe Phi Pho Phum complimented me, girls from chemistry complimented me, and Chad even sent me a Snap that next day that said, 'what's up.' Like, my look last night — that's what's up," Catlyn said.

At this point, *The Flail* was starting to suspect that there had not been a negative second on that blessed night. We inquired about this and Keightlynn's face fell. "At one point, some ignorant and stupid person asked who invited us, and, like, who we knew here. Like, what? Obviously my lab partner's second cousin. And they were like, 'who?' and we were like, 'you know who.' And they had the audacity to ask us to leave, but, like, at that point we *wanted* to leave. The party was more dead than the fern I tried to grow freshman year." Only time will tell the next time a night like this will occur — maybe next year, maybe never again. We can only hope the stars will align for Catlyn, Kateline and Keightlynn soon for the sake of Instagram and journalism.



*Caeightlynnne demonstrates the effortless charm of an Instagram photo in her latest photo essay, entitled "Ephemeral Beauty: An American Journey"*

PHOTO CREDITS TO CAEIGHTLYNNNE

# Student analyzes peers; ascends above them

By Anna Graham

In the ever-present quest for personal perfection and omniscience, we often find ourselves searching for answers in useless places. Many of us fall victim to the pull of capitalism and half-baked marketing schemes; many more get locked into patterns of perfectionism, addictive behaviors, and co-dependent relationships. Now, common advice on these matters usually fluctuates between "everyone is imperfect" to "everyone is perfect the way they are," neither of which presents any useful input on how to banish lingering personal flaws.

However, one student at the University of Puget Sound appears to have stumbled upon a solution. In a complete departure from commonly-touted self-help anthems, junior Brors Smors has found himself one step closer to perfection simply through analyzing his peers.

It is an unconventional approach, but one that is long overdue. Smors is currently in the process of marketing his approach to the general public, so if you, like the vast majority of people, have ever found yourself Googling Wikihow articles entitled, "How to Be an Adult," then sit tight, buckle your seatbelts and get ready for some comprehensive answers.

*The Flail* caught up with Smors over coffee at the most popular café in town, which, according to Smors, is a hotspot for collecting intel and furthering his career as a spiritual guru. "Just the sheer amount of people coming in and out — you can never run out of things to analyze. I love to stare at people for several minutes straight and just imagine what kind of childhood trauma they must have been through."

Pointing to an obviously dishevelled and gaunt-looking student, Smors remarked, "That's Kenny Keane. He hasn't slept in three days because of a supposed 'term paper,' but I've seen this kind of pattern consistent across Kenny's college experience and prior years. Poor guy," Smors sighed sympathetically. "His lack of sleep is obviously due to difficulties in execad functioning, stemming from being

neglected as a baby. His inhibition and flexible thinking are not up to par with his age; in those skills his competence is most likely closer to that of a 10-year-old."

Smors then turned to focus on a well-poised young female dressed in a miniskirt. "Over there, we can see Nora Sneeze, talking with her rather large cohort of friends. Though she may look like a normal, well-adjusted human, she uses her social status as her sole source of self-affirmation. Though she may seem positive and happy, her self-worth rests above a deep void of nothingness. It's only a matter of time before she caves into her latent insecurities and falls into the dredges of society."

*"It is only through deep analysis of the flaws of other people that we can begin to reach our own perfection."*

Here, Smors is quick to inform us that his psychoanalysis is not for the purpose of aiding those so gravely afflicted. Nor is it to simply vilify them in a public and degrading way. Rather, Smors emphasized the importance of such measures for one's own spiritual development. According to Smors himself, "It is only through deep analysis of the flaws of other people that we can begin to reach our own perfection. It's a long and intense process, really — deconstructing people's lives and turning these pieces into tools of self-affirmation and confidence-building."

One of Smors' few remaining friends demanded that he visit the school's health center, suspecting that some traumatizing event in Smors' own life had caused him to begin acting in such a way. Smors said that, though he definitely did not need counseling, he went out of pity for the friend. He found the visit to be wholly useless, as the counselor seemed to feel some unconscious urge to pry deep into Smors' life. "The counselor seemed to be in the grips of some very serious psychological disorder — perhaps brought on by the interference of an overprotective

aunt. I left as soon as I could."

Though he felt a little sad about the loss of a friend, Smors maintains that his own path will be the one of greatest personal growth. "As the sole remaining human without any significant psychological damage, I've been really working on congratulating myself on my relative competence and lack of self-destructive tendencies."



PHOTO CREDIRT TO PAGLIACCIO



# “More than a concert”: Collage 2017

By Evan Welsh

The music rang from every angle of a full Schneebeck hall. Instrumentally, everything was covered, from string and wind ensembles to EWI and intonation pipes. The styles ranged from classical to Broadway to jazz and beyond. Genre and location shifted with each new piece performed. Even with a program, each transition from song to song excited and surprised. Collage was more experience than concert.

Collage is a concert that is formatted to transition seamlessly from piece to piece, meaning the last note of one song will be the first note of the next, regardless of the style of music played. The format allows for a wide range of musical styles and eras to be performed. Collage at the University of Puget Sound sees more than 100 total performers, mostly students with featured appearances from the faculty of the Music department.

“It’s the first big event at the School of Music each fall; it’s become a tradition,” Dr. Gerard Morris said. He is Director of Bands at Puget Sound and was one of the coordinators and producers for this year’s Collage.

“It features all the areas of the school of music — we incorporate every department together,” Dr. Morris said. The show thrives on this collaboration of the School of Music, making it stand alone compared to every other concert performed throughout the year.

“It’s a showcase of the talent of the faculty and some of our best-performing students at the University. It’s an event; every year is is completely unique,” Dr. Morris said.

The shifting spotlights directing the attention to different places in the concert hall and the eclectic program distinguished Collage “from other events,” as Dr. Morris described. The attention of the audience was never lost. The changes came too frequently to allow for any distraction.

The first Collage concert at Puget Sound was in the fall seven years ago, and was fronted heavily by Dr. Maria Sampen, the Director of Strings at Puget Sound. The idea for this collage format came from her experience seeing the popularity and distinctiveness of the collage style work so well while at the University of Michigan. She and her husband, Tim Christie, an affiliate artist at University of Puget Sound, brought it to the Walla Walla Chamber Music Festival where it continued to thrive.

“I thought this would be a great format for the University, so I started talking to my colleagues,” Dr. Sampen said. Collage has grown in the seven years since its beginning at Puget Sound and is now extremely popular; every seat at this year’s show was occupied.

The student performers and audience members also greatly appreciate the collage



PHOTO BY EVAN WELSH

concert format. It gives both the opportunity to be a part of a concert experience that is unlike the ones they are normally used to performing in and seeing.

“I love Collage, mostly because it brings a wide array of audience members. There are so many students in the production, all of their friends come. I think the performance structure is much more dynamic,” Aiden Glaze, a senior vocal performer in Collage, said.

It was not just a concert, at least not in the way most people would think. The directional flow of the pieces within the program along with the spatial arrangement of the performers created an event, an experience, unlike anything else at the University of Puget Sound.

An experience like this can only be captured once. By next fall, the flow of the program will change, the lights will shift in color and movement, and where the audience might have once assumed the performers to stand may have been moved out of their line of vision.

# Fun, stomach-clenching or both at Fright Fest

By Matthew Gulick

There is a place where residents across the South Sound travel for recreational fear. You’ve probably passed it countless times northbound on I-5; perhaps you, like me, just used it as a landmark to know you’re about 25 minutes out from the University when caught in rush-hour traffic. That’s right, for the month of October, Wild Waves presents “Fright Fest,” where the theme park gets a “SPOOKTACULAR makeover” providing souls of all ages with a fright-filled evening of fun for the whole family.

A visit to Fright Fest works something like this: after paying for parking (\$12 per car) and a ticket (\$25 per person), potential scare-ees pass through what can only be the gates of an affordable local theme park, complete with faux wood and painted plaster. Upon entering, it becomes clear that college students land in a demographic void. Bracketed on the lower end by hyped-up high schoolers on awkward pubescent dates leading up to first kisses after the “Chamber of Souls,” and on the upper side by young families seeking a socially acceptable screaming outlet for both parents and kids, Fright Fest promises a resurgence of repressed past anxieties and premonitions of future anxieties not yet realized. These too-real fears fall by the wayside, however, when confronted with the much less likely terrors that serve as the main attraction.

Limited-time features include the “Chamber of Souls,” which, according to the website, contains “blood, gore, and bone chilling scares” as valued guests “Maneuver through medical mishaps, corpses, and a

zombie apocalypse.” Wild Waves rates the chamber PG-13, warning away those faint of heart. On our personal journey, the small girl ahead in line must have held the heart of a lion. Two compatriots and I decided we could brave the chamber’s horrors because, in the words of the guest behind us, “If that little girl is gonna do it there’s no way we can quit this line now.” The line moved slowly.

Upon reaching the front we discovered we weren’t the only college-age individuals in the park: we found ourselves reflected in many of employees that earn their paycheck delivering tired lines dictating rules for soon-to-be-scared individuals. The fact that the park supposedly closed at 11 o’clock, 20 minutes prior, most likely exacerbated the fatigue of our particular messenger, who had an apathetically stern warning that upon breaking a rule we would be escorted out of the attraction by security. The mortal terror inside soon banished these rules far from thought. Chamber of Souls spoilers ahead.

Visitors to the Chamber enter a claustrophobic world of flashing strobes and low-pitched blasts of sound descending below hearing. Though fully knowledgeable what frights spooky haunted attractions contain, visitors find themselves unable to avoid the terror that grabs them by the gut each time a prop turns out to be an actor pretending to be an inanimate object.

This situation may result from a selection process where those who enter such a space want to be scared and therefore embrace their fear, but this hypothesis

remains personally untested. In other words, I wrapped my arms around myself, my stomach sending strange waves of pain to my brain, and I muttered expletives of various religious figures as I made my way through the Chamber. Reaching some fresh new horror, visitors may find themselves laughing in elation for having survived the previous scare, all the while knowing in a small corner of their brain the unreality of their situation. I speak for myself and the two people clutching the back of my shirt when this small truth remained unconvincing.

While I would like to tell you I asked these various ghoulish actors for comment on the nature of their work environment, in reality I could summon no form of rational thought.

As such I cannot relate the audition process for a haunted house actor at Wild Waves, what form of compensation the job provides, or how someone finds themselves pursuing this line of work. What I can tell you is that for a \$30 fee you too can experience recreational fear in a water park setting (check Groupon before buying a ticket). In addition to the “Chamber of Souls,” Fright Fest offers “Camp Whispering Pines,” an outdoors-y variation on the same theme. 25 rides remain open after dark to provide alternative forms of fright.

Wild Waves feat. Fright Fest ends on Sunday Oct. 29, so get your fright on before it’s gone.





# In search of the history of Chinese migrants

By Arcelia Salado  
Alvarado

Zhi Lin's name is in the entryway for the exhibit at the Tacoma Art Museum. Painted in broad strokes, the bright Chinese characters are fitting for a man who is trying to shine the spotlight on people who were left anonymous for so long.

"Between 1865 and 1869, thousands of Chinese migrants toiled at a grueling pace and in perilous working conditions to help construct America's first Transcontinental Railroad," Stanford's Chinese Railroad Workers in North America said. Anywhere between 50 to 1,200 immigrants may have died while building the railroad, labouring under extremely perilous conditions with less pay and more hours than their European counterparts.

Lin's search for the history of Chinese immigrants began with paintings in 2006.

"[The paintings] honor the sacrifices made by Chinese men who labored on the largest engineering feat of the 19th century," Lin said. He is dedicated to a research-based methodology; writers of history are obligated to tell the truth.

Lin visited Tacoma many times and he walked the same eight-mile journey Chinese immigrants were forced to undertake when the city kicked all Chinese nationals out in 1885. Many of his sketches feature a first-person view of the buildings the immigrants would have had to walk by.

"It would be a further erasure if I were to substitute them with an imagined portrait," Lin said. He wants to show the animosity towards Chinese immigrants and how that led to their convenient erasure from the successful creation of the railroads.



The largest art piece, "Chinaman's Chance," takes up the entire right wall of the exhibit. Using audio/visual support in the form of a projected video, at first glance it merely looks like railroad rocks pushed up against the wall. Upon closer inspection, the viewer see that they have names scrawled on them. Names that were forgotten by time are figuratively being set in stone by Zhi Lin.

However, even Lin can only do so much to recover an incomplete history. The plaque states that there are only 905 recovered workers' names of the "estimated tens of thousands of Chinese workers." These names are made even more distant because English speakers found Chinese names "very difficult to understand," so many were written as abbreviations.

The video component consists of footage of a reenactment of the Golden Spike Railway Celebration, which Lin filmed from a periphery perspective, as if one is watching the celebration and being left out, prompting the viewer to imagine being omitted from history purely because of their identity.

Even the title of the piece is bleak; the idiom "Chinamen's Chance" includes a slur originating from these

very historical events, and means a "slim chance of making it — or surviving" Eric Liu, author of "A Chinamen's Chance" said in an NPR interview.

"To observe the event from another point of view is to reexamine the historical celebration," Lin said. For these immigrants, basic humanizing rights were denied even outside of work.

In the other central piece, "On November 3rd along Pacific Avenue in Tacoma," all attention is given to Chinese immigrants, but, in contrast, as negatively as possible.

The traditional hand scroll placed in the dead center of the room has golden edges and runs about a third of the length of the room and depicts two hundred Chinese immigrants being forced out of Tacoma in 1885.

According to Dawn Delbanco of the Department of Art History and Archaeology in Columbia University, scroll painting is a visual medium that forces intimacy onto the person unfurling it. The scroll is fully exposed for the sake of visibility. The use of a traditional Chinese scroll in contrast with square, industrial buildings and unending lines of immigrants trudging out of their home leaves the viewer reeling, uprooted.

"Lin said this expulsion is 'Ethnic cleansing. Because leading out every single Chinese 'cleaned' them out of the city,'" the plaque dedicated to Tacoma said.

In contrast to this upsetting negativity, constellations take shape in the painting directly across the entrance. It's over the Sierra Nevada, the same night sky above us all, stars reordered to imagine a bittersweet history in which Chinese workers receive the recognition they deserve.

The video by the front desk, "Of Race and Reconciliation," documents the 1885 expulsion of Chinese immigrants from Tacoma. The full version can be found on the PBS website.

"Lin envisions deeper and richer conversations about migration and immigration guided by a shared knowledge of our histories," the opening plaque said. After feeling knots in their core, the viewer can undo them with further research.

Lin's pieces will be placed in the Chinese Reconciliation Park in 2018, when the exhibit ends on Feb. 18, 2018.

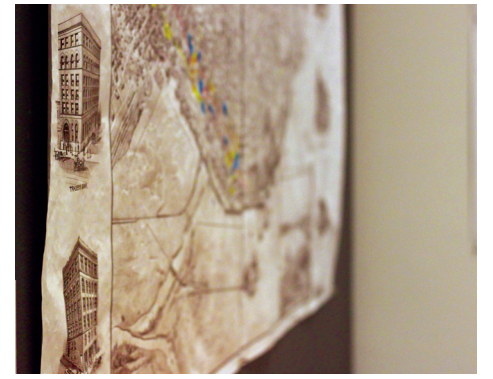
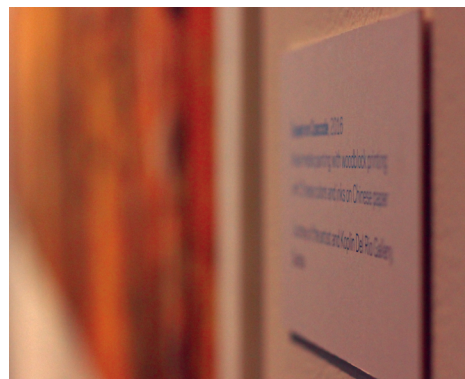


PHOTO CREDITS TO JAKE WEBB

# Pushing boundaries with the Tacoma Film Fest

By Brynn Svenningsen

Remember how Bill Nye made you interested in science when you were a kid? Surely any of you science majors can give him some credit. Well it's time to forget about Bill Nye as he was, because in David Alvarado and Jason Sussberg's new documentary "Bill Nye: The Science Guy," there is a new Bill to be discovered. The film will be opening the 12th annual Tacoma Film Festival this year.

"Bill Nye" focuses on Nye's movement from a children's television host to an activist against global warming. This film shows the developing role of a former children's television educator to an active member of the community who works to show the evidence of climate change and educate adults on the real problems occurring.

The festival has become a popular and important community event, educating the Tacoma community for many years and featuring dramas, documentaries, thrillers, comedies and more. Now it continues to strengthen the connections and appreciate the film community in the pacific northwest.

"It's a great way to showcase people's work that they have been putting a lot of time into. You never really think about

just how much work from start to finish, whether it's the first paper to pen to getting it distributed for people to see," senior Chase Hutchinson said. Hutchinson is currently the marketing and outreach intern at the Grand Cinema and has been involved in the preparation of the festival.

Additionally, local businesses act as sponsors to the event and to specific films. The festival itself is centrally located at the Grand Cinema and but includes events like panels, workshops and opening and closing parties, which are housed in different venues including King's Books, Union Club and Sota BlackBox.

In addition to being an important event for Tacoma residents, the festival is an important event for the film community as a whole. Many of the films featured will be premiering and the audience will be the first to get a glimpse. One film, "Meta-Dimensional," will be premiering for the first time in the United States. The film, directed by Philip Plough and Michaela Vu, follows two sisters after the death of their father. The film is split into two parts with the first shot in 360 degrees and the second in virtual reality.

There is something for everyone, including family-friendly shorts and films

of all genres. On Saturday, Oct. 7 at 10 a.m. there is a collection of animated and narrative stories that are for an audience of all ages. There will also be free doughnuts from Top Pot Doughnuts.

One of the panels the festival offers is "The Future of NW Film, Arts & Entrepreneurship" on Monday, Oct. 9 at 6:30 p.m. It will take place at King's Books and will feature Northwest leaders, organizers and creators sharing their experiences working in film. It will also focus specifically on the trends in film and the arts that are prominent in the Puget Sound area as a whole. There is also a seminar held by Mark Stolaroff, a director of the movie "DRIVERX," which will have its world premiere at the festival on Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. The seminar will describe how to make a no-budget film and describe ways that an aspiring filmmaker can achieve this. Both seminars are free and are a good opportunity to learn more about film and hear people in the field speak about it.

"Dave Made a Maze" is a fun quirky film about this guy who builds a giant cardboard maze in his apartment that looks from the outside to be only 10 by 10 feet but ends up being an entire labyrinth. And a couple of months ago, Nick Thune,

who's one of the stars who is a local to the area, was there, the writer was there, the director was there, the producer was there. The producer is coming back to the film festival to do a workshop on producing an indie film," Hutchinson said.

Executive producer Charles Meyer will be hosting the panel "Strangers' Couches and Lots of Popcorn: The DIY Guide to Touring Your Film" on Saturday, Oct. 7 at 10 a.m. at the Grand Cinema. Additionally, an encore screening of "Dave Made A Maze" will be shown at Dystopian State Brewing Company on Saturday Oct. 7 at 4 p.m. An informal Q&A with Charles Meyer will also be held.

Enjoy the closing night and view the showing of "The Ballad of Lefty Brown," which is directed by Jared Mosme. Mosme created a coming-of-age movie with western ties about a 60-year-old man. This will be the west coast premier of the film and will end the 12th annual Film Festival with a bang.

The Tacoma Film Festival will be running from Oct. 5 until Oct. 12. Tickets are \$8 for students and can be purchased in advance at the Grand Cinema or 30 minutes before it is set to begin.